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June 8, 2018

Andrew Barnsdale  
Project Manager  
California Public Utilities Commission  
505 Van Ness Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102

**Re: Minor Project Refinement No. 1 for the South Orange County Reliability Enhancement Project.**

Mr. Barnsdale:

San Diego Gas & Electric (SDG&E) is hereby requesting approval of Minor Project Refinement No. 1 (MPR-1) from the California Public Utility Commission (CPUC) for the South Orange County Reliability Enhancement Project (SOCRE or Project). Approval of MPR-1 will authorize the use of a new temporary workspace area along the southern border of the future San Juan Capistrano Substation to facilitate the construction of the Project's screening wall and security fence that was approved by the CPUC as part of the original Project. Please see below for additional details regarding MPR-1, as well as within the following attachments:

Attachment A: SOCRE Minor Project Refinement Form

Attachment B: MPR-1 Figure

Attachment C: MPR-1 Site Photographs

**1.0 Description of MPR-1 Workspace Area and Activities**

SDG&E is requesting approval of MPR-1 for a new temporary workspace area required to facilitate construction of the Project's screen wall located on the southern border of the future San Juan Capistrano Substation property, as well as for installation of the chain-link security fence located on the eastern border. The MPR-1 area extends from Camino Capistrano at the western extent to the northeast corner of the Substation at its eastern extent, near Calle Santa Rosalia. The total length of the area is approximately 1,100 feet, and the total area is approximately 18,300 square feet (0.42 acre).

The Substation's screen wall (also designed to act as a partial retaining wall) will be installed with a 5-foot offset from the existing Substation's southern property line and will require backcuts to install the wall foundations and allow equipment, vehicle and worker access during construction. There are two types of screen wall designs along the southern border, Type 1 and Type 2. The Type 1 will act as a screen wall and Type 2 will act as a partial retaining and screen wall. The

walls will require a backcut of approximately 5 to 20 feet (at a depth of 8 to 15 feet) onto the adjacent property depending on soil conditions and the type of wall.

To facilitate this work, as well as for the installation of the chain-link security fence on the eastern property line, SDG&E is requesting temporary workspace for access and to facilitate construction of the wall and fence. Ground-disturbing activities will be limited to the area designated for backcutting/ vegetation removal as shown on Figure 1. SDG&E will only remove vegetation and trees as required for the backcutting. The area designated as temporary work area (also shown on Figure 1) will only be used for construction access (requiring no ground disturbance, vegetation or tree removal). Trees and shrubs will be removed by SDG&E (or the applicable property owner), based on the discretion of the property owner. Following the use of the temporary workspace, the area will be regraded and revegetated to pre-Project conditions based on pre-Project photo documentation by SDG&E or in coordination with the property owner.

Construction of the screen wall and fence will occur in two phases, as construction of these components is dependent on the construction sequencing of the full build out of the substation's 138 and 230 kV yard configurations. As such, construction of the screen wall and fence will occur intermittently over the 5 years of the Project. See Figure 1 which shows the sections of the wall that will be constructed during phase 1 and phase 2 of the substation build out.

## **2.0 Request for Approval**

SDG&E respectfully requests authorization of MPR-1 to utilize the new temporary workspace along the southern and eastern border of the San Juan Capistrano Substation by June 15, 2018. Work within the temporary workspace area is scheduled to begin approximately two weeks after SDG&E secures the necessary permits from the City and use of the area (as described above) will continue during wall and fence installation activities scheduled to occur intermittently through the end of construction. Should you have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me at (858) 503-5028 or by email at [jkaminsky@semprautilities.com](mailto:jkaminsky@semprautilities.com).

Sincerely,



Jennifer L. Kaminsky  
SOCRE Environmental Project Manager

cc: Joe Donaldson, Ecology and Environment, Inc.  
Keri Cuppage, SDG&E  
Kelly Stallings, SDG&E  
Mary Turley, SDG&E  
Kenda Pollio, KP Environmental

**ATTACHMENT A**  
**SOCRE Minor Project Refinement Form**



## South Orange County Reliability Enhancement Project CPUC Minor Project Refinement Form

**Minor project refinements** are strictly limited to changes that will not trigger an additional permit requirement, do not substantially increase the severity of a previously identified significant impact based on criteria used in the FEIR, create a new significant impact, are located within the geographic boundary of the study area of the FEIR, and that don't conflict with any mitigation measure or applicable law or policy.

**Date Requested:** June 8, 2018

**Report No.:** 1

**Date Approved:** TBD

**Approval Agency:** California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC). No other agency approval is required.

**Property Owner(s):** The new temporary workspace encroaches onto the property of two Homeowner's Associations (HOA).

**Location/Milepost:** The Minor Project Refinement No. 1 (MPR-1) temporary workspace area is located adjacent to the southern and eastern borders of the San Juan Capistrano Substation, in the City of San Juan Capistrano.

**Land Use/Vegetative Cover:** The MPR-1 area is adjacent to San Juan Capistrano Substation and is part of a residential area. The 18,300-square foot area (0.42-acre) consists of a mixture of disturbed/developed (3,500 square feet) and landscape/ornamental (14,800 square feet) habitat. Please note that property owners will be removing a few shrubs and trees from the MPR-1 area prior to SDG&E's use.

**Sensitive Resources:** There are no sensitive resources included in the MPR-1 temporary workspace area. See resource discussions below.

**Modification From:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Permit	<input type="checkbox"/> Plan/Procedure	<input type="checkbox"/> Specification	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing
<input type="checkbox"/> Mitigation Measure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other:		

San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E) is requesting approval of MPR-1 for a new temporary workspace area required to facilitate construction of the South Orange County Reliability Enhancement Project's (SOCRE or Project) screen wall located on the southern border of the future San Juan Capistrano Substation property, as well as for installation of the chain-link security fence located on the eastern border. The MPR-1 area extends from Camino Capistrano at the western extent to the northeast corner of the substation at its eastern extent, near Calle Santa Rosalia. The total length of the area is approximately 1,100 feet, and the total area is approximately 18,300 square feet (0.42 acre).

The substation's screen wall (also designed to act as a partial retaining wall) will be installed with a 5-foot offset from the existing substation's southern property line and will require backcuts to install the wall foundations and allow equipment, vehicle and worker access during construction. There are two types of screen wall designs along the southern border, Type 1 and Type 2. The Type 1 will act as a screen wall and Type 2 will act as a partial retaining and screen wall. The walls will require a backcut of approximately 5 to 20 feet (at a depth of 8 to 15 feet) onto the adjacent property depending on soil conditions and the type of wall.

To facilitate this work, as well as for the installation of the chain-link security fence on the eastern property line, SDG&E is requesting temporary workspace for access and to facilitate construction of the wall and fence. Ground-disturbing activities will be limited to the area designated for backcutting/vegetation removal as shown on Figure 1. SDG&E will only remove vegetation and trees as required for the backcutting. The area designated as temporary work area (also shown on Figure 1) will only be used for construction access. Trees and shrubs will be removed by SDG&E (or the applicable property owner) prior to the use of the area. Following the use of the temporary workspace, the area will be regraded and revegetated to pre-Project conditions by SDG&E or in coordination with the property owner. Work within the MPR-1 area is scheduled to begin approximately two weeks after SDG&E secures the necessary permits from the city. Construction of the screen wall and fence will occur in two phases, as construction of these components is dependent on the construction sequencing of the full build out of the substation's 138 and 230 kV yard configurations. As such, construction of the screen wall and fence will occur intermittently over the 5 years of the Project. See Figure 1 which shows the sections of the wall that will be constructed during phase 1 and phase 2 of the substation build out.

**Describe how project refinement deviates from current project. Include photos.**

- Original Condition: Final design of the screen wall and chain-link fence was not complete at the time the SOCRE Final Environmental Impact Report (FEIR) was finalized and it was originally anticipated that the screen wall and chain-link fence could be constructed from within the substation property boundary.
- Justification for Change: Following final design and constructability review in the field, the construction contractor identified the need to gain access on to the adjacent properties in order to facilitate the construction of the screen wall located on the southern border and the chain-link fence located on the southern and eastern borders of the substation. The wall requires backcuts to install the foundations and access is needed on the outside perimeter for equipment, vehicles and workers. Installation of the chain-link fence only requires construction access. As such, additional temporary workspace is needed for construction of the southern screen wall and installation of the chain-link fence.
- Maps & Figures: Refer to Figure 1 in **Attachment B, Figure**, for a map of the MPR-1 proposed temporary workspace area. Refer to **Attachment C, MPR-1 Site Photographs**, for pictures of the current conditions within the MPR-1 temporary workspace area.
- Environmental Impact: Utilization of the additional temporary workspace area for construction of the San Juan Capistrano screen wall and chain-link fence would not change the nature or increase the severity of any impacts disclosed within the FEIR; would not result in alteration to Applicant Proposed Measures (APMs) or existing Mitigation Measures (MMs); would not require new mitigation measures; and would not require new permits, new regulatory approval, or other new regulatory consultation. Utilization of the temporary workspace immediately adjacent to the San Juan Capistrano Substation is anticipated to incrementally increase the total temporary impact area for the Project by approximately 0.42 acre of disturbed/developed and landscaped/ornamental habitat that contains no sensitive resources. The temporary workspace would be regraded and revegetated (as needed and in coordination with the property owner) to pre-Project conditions after the screening wall is installed. Specific discussions for each resource area are provided below.
- Concurrence (if appropriate): Concurrence is not required as the new proposed temporary workspace area for the San Juan Capistrano Substation is located immediately adjacent to the original substation location, and the temporary workspace area is within the geographic study area analyzed in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review process.

**Resources:**

**Biological**       No Resources Present       Resources Present       N/A, Change would not affect resources

**Previous Biological Survey Report Reference:**  
 Biological resources within the San Juan Capistrano Substation and along the Project alignment were studied, reviewed, and documented as part of SDG&E's application for a Certificate of Public Necessity (CPCN) for the SOCRE Project and Proponent's Environmental Assessment (PEA). Biological Resources were also discussed within the CPUC-conducted CEQA review process. As per Section 4.4 of the FEIR, no sensitive biological resources are present within the MPR-1 study area. In January 2018, a Project biologist verified that the current condition of the MPR-1 area was consistent with the results provided in previous biological studies. Please refer to the Biological Resources Assessment that was included in the PEA for additional details regarding the MPR-1 workspace.

**Cultural**       No Resources Present       Resources Present  
 N/A, changes would not affect resources

**Previous Cultural Survey Report Reference:**  
 Cultural and paleontological resources within the San Juan Capistrano Substation and along the Project alignment were studied, reviewed, and documented as part of SDG&E's application for a CPCN for the Project and PEA. These resources were also discussed within the CPUC-conducted CEQA review process (see the Project's FEIR, Section 4.5).

**Disturbance Acreage Changes:**       Yes       No

Original disturbance acreage: None (MPR-1 temporary workspace area was not included in the Project's FEIR).

New disturbance acreage: 0.42 acre of temporary impact area

CEQA Section	Applicable	(Y) Define potential impact or (N) briefly explain why CEQA section isn't applicable. If (Y), describe original and new level of impact, and avoidance/minimization measures to be taken.
Geology, Soils, and Seismicity	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	MPR-1 does not involve the installation of any new facilities or performance of any new activities. Accordingly, utilization of the new temporary workspace area would not increase the severity of any previously identified impacts to geology, soils, and seismicity, and would not create any new geological related hazard not previously disclosed in the Project's FEIR, Section 4.6.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	The proposed temporary workspace area would not require agency consultation relating to geology, soils, or seismicity.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Hazardous Materials and Waste	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	MPR-1 does not involve the installation of any new facilities or performance of any new activities. Accordingly, utilization of the new temporary workspace area would not require any new potentially hazardous materials to be used, would not create any new hazardous waste, would not expose any sensitive receptors not previously identified, and would not create any new hazard not previously disclosed in the Project's FEIR, Section 4.8.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	The proposed temporary workspace area would not require agency consultation relating to hazards or hazardous materials.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	

CEQA Section	Applicable	(Y) Define potential impact or (N) briefly explain why CEQA section isn't applicable. If (Y), describe original and new level of impact, and avoidance/minimization measures to be taken.
Hydrology	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	MPR-1 does not involve the installation of any new facilities or performance of any new activities, accordingly, utilization of the new temporary workspace area would not result in new significant impacts or a substantial increase in severity of any previously identified impacts to hydrology and water quality that would be different from the impacts assessed in the Project's FEIR, Section 4.9. Applicable APMs and MMs relating to hydrology and water quality that would be applied to the substation property, would apply to the MPR-1 area, and would be implemented to mitigate for impacts related to hydrology and water quality.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	The new temporary workspace area would not require agency consultation relating to hydrology or water quality.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Cultural Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	No new significant impacts or a substantial increase in the severity of any previously identified significant impacts to cultural resources are anticipated to occur as a result of the proposed new temporary workspace area. The new temporary workspace area is located near the boundary of an environmentally sensitive area. However, the area was previously surveyed for potential resources by an approved archaeological monitor and no surface resources were identified. Cultural resources and Native American monitors will be onsite for all ground-disturbing activities in compliance with Project requirements. Impacts would be similar to those disclosed within the Project's FEIR, Section 4.5. Although no new or altered APMs or MMs would be required, the following APMs and MMs would be implemented for MPR-1 work activities:
	<input type="checkbox"/> N	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APM CUL-1: Worker Training for Cultural Resources</li> <li>• APM CUL-2: Cultural Resource Monitoring</li> <li>• APM CUL-3: Avoid Known Cultural Resources</li> <li>• APM CUL-4: Unanticipated Cultural Finds</li> <li>• APM CUL-5: Curate Cultural Discoveries</li> <li>• APM CUL-6: Archeological Monitoring Results Report</li> <li>• APM CUL-7: Monitoring by Native Americans</li> <li>• MM CUL-1: Supplemental Worker Training for Cultural Resources</li> <li>• MM CUL-2: Construction Monitoring Plan</li> <li>• MM CUL-3: Qualified Cultural Resources Consultants</li> <li>• MM CUL-4: Native American Consultation and Participation Planning</li> </ul> <p>No new significant impacts or a substantial increase in the severity of any previously identified significant impacts to paleontological resources are anticipated to occur as a result of the proposed new temporary workspace area. Although the new temporary workspace area occurs within the vicinity of sensitive paleontological formations that may contain fossils, no impacts (or potential for impacts) to paleontological resources are anticipated beyond what was disclosed within the Project's FEIR, Section 4.5 and a paleontological monitor will be onsite for all ground disturbing activities in compliance with Project requirements. Although no new or altered APMs or MMs would be</p>

CEQA Section	Applicable	(Y) Define potential impact or (N) briefly explain why CEQA section isn't applicable. If (Y), describe original and new level of impact, and avoidance/minimization measures to be taken.
		<p>required, the following APMs and MMs would be implemented for MPR-1 work activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APM CUL-8: Paleontological Monitoring</li> <li>• APM CUL-9: Paleontological Monitoring</li> <li>• MM CUL-6: Qualified Paleontological Consultants</li> <li>• MM CUL-7: Paleontological Monitoring and Treatment Plan</li> </ul>
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	The area was previously surveyed for potential cultural and paleontological resources and existing APMs and MMs will adequately reduce the potential for impacts to cultural and paleontological resources consistent with the impacts disclosed within the Project's FEIR, Section 4.5. Therefore, no new agency or tribal consultation would be required.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Traffic and Circulation	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	Construction within the new temporary workspace area would not affect traffic and circulation in a manner different from the impacts assessed as part of the Project's FEIR, Section 4.15. The new MPR-1 temporary workspace area would be constructed utilizing construction crews and equipment that is already present on the Project area. No new traffic on public roadways would be generated by MPR-1. Therefore, no new or a significant increase to previously identified significant impacts would occur as a result of the MPR-1 activities.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	The new temporary workspace area would not require agency consultation relating to traffic and circulation.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Air Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	The use of the MPR-1 temporary workspace area would not result in new significant impacts or a substantial increase in the severity of impacts as analyzed and disclosed within the Project's FEIR, Section 4.3, as there are no new activities proposed as a part of this MPR-1 request.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	The new temporary workspace area would not require agency consultation relating to air quality.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Noise and Vibration	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	Utilization of the new temporary workspace area would not result in new significant impacts or a substantial increase in severity of any previously identified impacts to noise and vibration that were already analyzed in the Project's FEIR, Section 4.11, as there are no new activities proposed as a part of this MPR-1 request.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	The new temporary workspace area would not require agency consultation relating to noise and vibration.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	

CEQA Section	Applicable	(Y) Define potential impact or (N) briefly explain why CEQA section isn't applicable. If (Y), describe original and new level of impact, and avoidance/minimization measures to be taken.
Aesthetics/ Visual Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Y	No permanent change in impacts to aesthetics/visual resources would result from utilization of the new temporary workspace as the area will be revegetated to pre-Project conditions (in coordination with the applicable property owner) upon completion of the screen wall and fence installation. Vegetation and tree removal within the backcut area would result in temporary impacts and, with revegetation and installation of the screen wall within the backcut area, temporary impacts associated with MPR-1 would not result in a substantial increase in severity or a new significant impact from those analyzed and disclosed within the Project's FEIR, Section 4.1. The temporary impacts associated with MPR-1 workspace would also not require new or altered APMs or MMs. SDG&E would implement APM AES-2 (Restoring Disturbed Areas), which would ensure temporary impacts would remain less than significant.
	<input type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	The new temporary workspace area would not require agency consultation relating to visual resources.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Vegetation and Wildlife	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	The use of the new temporary workspace would not result in new significant impacts or a substantial increase in severity of any previously identified impacts to biological resources. The proposed 18,300 square-foot impact area occurs within disturbed/developed and landscape/ornamental habitat and does not include any sensitive biological resources or habitat as described in the Project's FEIR Section 4.4. A few ornamental trees would be removed by the property owner prior to SDG&E's use of the area and SDG&E would remove some landscape/ornamental vegetation associated with backcutting and construction access as needed. Impacts to vegetation and wildlife would be mitigated through implementation of Project APMs and MMs. In coordination with the property owners, the area would be returned to pre-construction conditions after the screening wall and fence is completed. Although no new or altered APMs or MMs would be required, the following APMs and MMs would be implemented for MPR-1 work activities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APM BR-1: Limit Construction to Designated Areas and Protect Riparian, Aquatic and Wetland Areas.</li> <li>• MM BR-2: Biological Monitoring.</li> <li>• MM BR-3: Preconstruction Surveys.</li> <li>• MM BR-4: Limit Removal of Native Vegetation Communities and Trees.</li> <li>• MM BR-6: Migratory Birds and Raptors Impact Reduction Measures.</li> <li>• MM BR-8: Western Burrowing Owl Impacts Reduction Measures.</li> <li>• MM BR-9: Invasive Plant Control Measures.</li> </ul>
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	
Agency Consultation?	<input type="checkbox"/> Y	The new temporary workspace area would not require agency consultation relating to vegetation, wildlife, or other biological resources.
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N	



**Attachment B**  
**MPR-1 Figure**

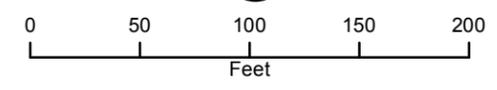
**SOCRE PROJECT**

**MPR-1 FIGURE 1  
SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO SUBSTATION**

**San Juan Capistrano  
Orange County, CA**

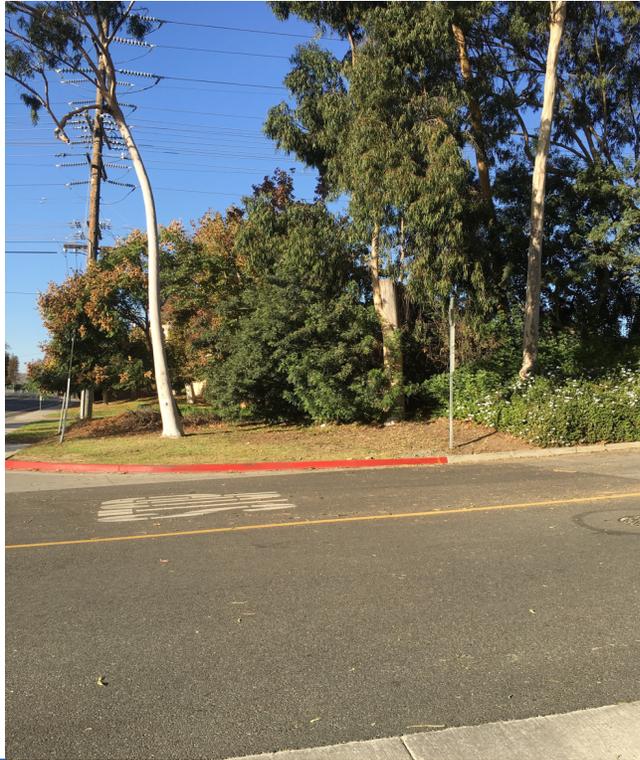
**LEGEND**

-  Phase 1 Screen Wall
-  Phase 2 Screen Wall
-  Backcutting/ Vegetation Removal Area
-  Temporary Work Area (access only)
-  San Juan Capistrano Substation Site



**Attachment C**  
**MPR-1 Site Photographs**

**ATTACHMENT C**  
**MPR-1 Site Photographs**



View looking north at the intersection of Camino Capistrano and Calle Bonita (the start of the proposed MPR-1 temporary workspace area).



View looking west of the MPR-1 temporary workspace area.

**ATTACHMENT C**  
**MPR-1 Site Photographs**



View looking south at the MPR-1 workspace area. The orange line represents to approximate location of the new temporary workspace.



View looking east at the MPR-1 workspace area. The orange line represents to approximate location of the new temporary workspace.